


BARRICK

MERCUR

October 18, 1995

M/045/017
Wayne

BARRICK RESOURCES (USA) INC. Tel: (801) 268-4447
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine Fax: (801) 266-4296
P.O. Box 838
Tooele, Utah 84074

Mr. Don A. Ostler, P.E.
Director
Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870

Dear Mr. Ostler:

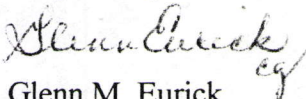
Subject: Valley Fill Leach Area 2 (VF2)
Stipulation and Consent Order No. GW-90-03-A

This correspondence is to advise the Division that the revised completion date for all closure-related earthwork on VF2 is now anticipated to be November 17, 1995. Subsequent revegetation efforts will commence immediately after final topsoil placement is achieved. The Division will receive an As-Built report on the closure of VF2 no later than December 31, 1995 pursuant to Item 5 of your correspondence dated May 30, 1995.

Barrick will contact Mr. Dennis Frederick of your staff to advise as to the specific date earthwork is complete and revegetation work will commence. This will allow the Division to inspect the work pursuant to Item 2 of your correspondence dated May 30, 1995.

Please contact me should you require further information.

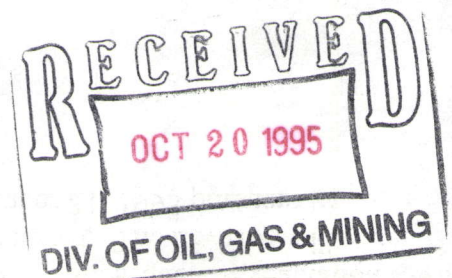
Respectfully,



Glenn M. Eurick
Environmental Affairs Coordinator (USA)

GME/cg

cc: C. L. Landa
C. L. Olsen
D. P. Beatty
D. R. Bird (PBL)
D. Frederick (UDWQ)
L. Braxton (UDOGM)





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Director
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Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870

Dear Mr. Ostler:

Subject: UGW450001
Valley Fill Leach Area 3 (VF3)
Conceptual Closure Plan

Your correspondence dated October 6, 1995 has been received and reviewed at the Mercur Mine. The following responses are provided for your review and information:

General - Barrick will submit a revised Conceptual Closure Plan for VF3 within 90 days of receipt of your October 6, 1995 letter. Barrick received your letter on or about October 9, 1995, and therefore will submit its document no later than January 8, 1996. The approved date for submittal of the Final Closure Plan for VF3 remains September 30, 1997 pursuant to Part I.H.3 of UGW450001.

Item 1 - The Conceptual Closure Plan for VF3 was prepared in late 1994 and submitted to the Division on January 13, 1995. These activities were completed well in advance of the development and subsequent approval of the closure plan for Valley Fill Leach Area 2. Barrick intends to fully evaluate the merits of both a soil cap and a low permeability cap for the final closure scenario since we consider either design approach to be Best Available Technology if scientifically and technically defensible.

Item 2 - The VF3 facility has a designed, approved, and constructed leakage collection system. The utility of this system has never been fully realized since, in our opinion, a significant leakage situation does not exist. Barrick will provide the Division with a more detailed post-closure fluid management discussion and analysis in the resubmittal of the Conceptual Closure Plan.

Item 3 - Barrick will provide the Division with a more detailed analysis and schedule concerning the neutralization efforts to be undertaken. The Division is advised, however,

Mr. Don A. Ostler
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that the environmental issues associated with the water balance situation in the tailings impoundment shortly before and during the closure of this facility require a greater degree of environmental consideration than the rinsing of VF3 with tailing reclaim solution.

Please contact me should you require further information. Final resolution of these Conceptual Closure Plan issues in early 1996 will be of mutual benefit in the planning for final closure of the Mercur Mine and associated components.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Glenn M. Eurick" followed by a small "cg" monogram.

Glenn M. Eurick
Environmental Affairs Coordinator (USA)

GME/cg

cc: C. L. Landa
C. L. Olsen
D. P. Beatty
D. R. Bird (PBL)
D. Frederick (UDWQ)
L. Braxton (UDOGM)